

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1 1. In a data processing network having a server, multiple
2 partitions, a fabric, and a channel adapter communicating between
3 the partition and the fabric, a method of assigning addresses to
4 the channel adapter comprising:

5 sending multiple requests from the channel adapter to the
6 fabric, each request sent on behalf of a respective one of said
7 partitions;

8 assigning a unique address identification for each request,
9 each address identification being associated with the respective
10 partition on whose behalf the request was sent;

11 storing in a table in the fabric, the address
12 identifications; and

13 returning the assigned address identification for each
14 request, wherein multiple addresses are assigned to the same
15 channel adapter.

1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising establishing the
2 table in the fabric responsive to the first request.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the table is stored in a name
2 server in the fabric.

1 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 sending a proposed address to the fabric with a request, and
3 confirming by the fabric that the proposed name is assigned.

1 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 sending an updated address to the fabric with a request, and
3 updating by the fabric, the stored address associated with
4 the partition on whose behalf the request was sent with said
5 updated address.

1 6. A data processing system comprising:
2 a server;
3 multiple partitions in said server;
4 a fabric;
5 a channel adapter communicating between the partition and
6 the fabric, said channel adapter sending multiple requests to the
7 fabric, each request sent on behalf of a respective one of said
8 partitions;
9 said fabric assigning a unique address identification for
10 each request, each address identification being associated with
11 the respective partition on whose behalf the request was sent;
12 a table in said fabric storing the address identifications;
13 and
14 a transmitter in said fabric returning the assigned address
15 identification for each request, such that multiple addresses are
16 assigned to the same channel adapter.

1 7. The data processing system of claim 6 wherein said fabric
2 establishes the table in the fabric responsive to the first
3 request.

1 8. The data processing system of claim 6 wherein the table is
2 stored in a name server in the fabric.

9. The data processing system of claim 6 wherein said server sends a proposed address to the fabric with a request, and said fabric confirms that the proposed name is assigned.

10. The data processing system of claim 6 wherein said server sends an updated address to the fabric with a request, and said fabric updates the address associated with the partition on whose behalf the request was sent with said updated address.

11. In data processing system having a server, multiple partitions in the server, a fabric, and a channel adapter communicating between the partition and the fabric, said channel adapter sending multiple requests to the fabric, each request sent on behalf of a respective one of said partitions, an apparatus for assigning multiple addresses to the channel adapter comprising:

a process in said fabric assigning a unique address identification for each request, each address identification being associated with the respective partition on whose behalf the request was sent;

a table in said fabric storing the address identifications; and

a transmitter in said fabric returning the assigned address identification for each request, such that multiple addresses are assigned to the same channel adapter.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said fabric establishes the table in the fabric responsive to the first request.

13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the table is stored in a name server in the fabric.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein when said server sends a
2 proposed address to the fabric with a request, and said fabric
3 confirms that the proposed name is assigned.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein when said server sends an
2 updated address to the fabric with a request, and said fabric
3 updates the address associated with the partition on whose behalf
4 the request was sent with said updated address.

1 16. A program product usable with a data processing network
2 having a server, multiple partitions, a fabric, and a channel
3 adapter communicating between the partition and the fabric, said
4 program product comprising:

5 a computer readable medium having recorded thereon computer
6 readable program code means for performing the method of
7 assigning addresses to the channel adapter comprising:

8 receiving multiple requests from the channel adapter to the
9 fabric, each request sent on behalf of a respective one of said
10 partitions;

11 assigning a unique address identification for each request,
12 each address identification being associated with the respective
13 partition on whose behalf the request was sent;

14 storing in a table in the fabric, the address
15 identifications; and

16 returning the assigned address identification for each
17 request, wherein multiple addresses are assigned to the same
18 channel adapter.

1 17. The program product of claim 16 wherein said method further
2 comprises establishing the table in the fabric responsive to the
3 first request.

1 18. The program product of claim 16 wherein the table is stored
2 in a name server in the fabric.

1 19. The program product of claim 16 wherein said method further
2 comprises:
3 receiving a proposed address to the fabric with a request,
4 and
5 confirming by the fabric that the proposed name is assigned.

1 20. The program product of claim 16 wherein said method further
2 comprises:
3 receiving an updated address to the fabric with a request,
4 and
5 updating by the fabric, the stored address associated with
6 the partition on whose behalf the request was sent with said
7 updated address.